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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

Deputy Director for National Foreign Assessment

14 April 1981

NOTE FOR: [REDACTED]

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Assistant National Intelligence Officer for East Asia

SUBJECT: Reported North Korean Interest in Nuclear R&D for  
Possible Military Applications

REFERENCE: D/SA/NPI Note "NK Interest in Nuclear Reactor,"  
9 April 1981, S NF (and others)

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Further to the references, the attached report is the first I have seen directly linking recent North Korean interest in nuclear energy with potential military uses. Given the source, it would seem that the South likely is developing a perception of a possible eventual nuclear threat posed by the North. And this, of course, would carry profound implications for its own security planning and options. I'd be interested in your reactions.

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cc: SA/NPI

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